



June 2 2006

This Week In Correction

A weekly update of events in the Tennessee Department of Correction

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE:

Commissioner Little spoke during the Memorial Day Commemoration and Graduation Ceremony held Friday at the **Tennessee Correction Academy** in Tullahoma.



The ceremony was dedicated to honoring correctional officers killed in the line of duty.

"To those loved ones of graduates, be understanding and support them in the work they do, pray for us and lift us up," Commissioner Little said.

TCA Superintendent Mike Dutton, Commissioner Little and Deputy Commissioner Gayle Ray stand in front of the memorial that is engraved with the names of 19 officers who have given their lives while serving the state of Tennessee.



Officer Wayne "Cotton" Morgan's name is the last added to the memorial.



"He gave his life to help Tennesseans so it is with deep gratitude, respect and honor that we memorialize Cotton Morgan today", said Deputy Commissioner Ray

The family of Officer Wayne "Cotton" Morgan whose life ended tragically on August 9, 2005 attended the ceremony and received a special presentation from Commissioner Little.



"His loss was one that tore through the fabric", Commissioner Little said.

As 49 new correctional officers raised their hands to be sworn in, Commissioner Little said, "The sacrifice we make is often unnoticed."



Also at **TCA** this week, seventeen (17) institutional First Aid/CPR Instructors from eight of our facilities successfully completed American Red Cross instructor recertification requirements.

ABOVE AND BEYOND:



David Mills
Warden

Congratulations to Warden David G. Mills who was presented with the "Above And Beyond Award" by the Tennessee National Guard and Reserves. Vice Admiral David C. Nichols Jr., Deputy Commander, U.S. Central Command, Tampa, Florida presented the honor to Warden Mills for his support of employees who serve as "warrior citizens" in the guard and reserves. The award was presented during a banquet held by the Employer Support Unit of the Guard and Reserves which is an agency within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve affairs.

Also at **MCCX** this week, 16 students from the Gate Center along with three chaperones participated in a tour and “Straight Talk” presentation.



Jewel Steele
Warden

WOMAN OF THE YEAR:

Congratulations to Warden Steele on being named “Woman of the Year” by the Nashville Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc. Warden Steele is being honored for her achievements in corrections and for becoming the first black female warden at **TPW**.

Deputy Warden Debra Johnson will receive the “Professional Award” during a ceremony this month at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel.



DON'T SMOKE 'EM IF YOU GOT 'EM:

Perhaps one of the “hottest” issues in our facilities these days is the pending ban on tobacco products. This is as a result of a new law passed in the legislature to prohibit smoking in all state buildings which would include prisons.

Efforts are underway by the Commissioner to help all smokers through the

transition.

While other state buildings are required to become tobacco-free by July 1, 2006, TDOC asked for and received an extension until July, 2007 in order to have more time to assist staff and inmates with smoking cessation classes.

TCIP and **SPNF** will kick us off later this year.

BRUSHY NEWS

Here are photos I forgot to include of the **BMCX** Employee Recognition Ceremony. Warden Worthington threatened to make me eat the square fish in the cafeteria at **BMCX** if I didn't include them.

Nine officers were given service awards, including a 30-year award to Correctional Officer Curtis Massengill.



A sad note at BMCX, 5 officers participated in the funeral procession and burial services for fallen Roane County Deputy Bill Jones. Deputy Jones and former police officer Mike Brown were killed in the line of duty.

BMCX AND **MCCX** employees presented the Cumberland Oncology and Hematology staff with certificates of appreciation during the Oak Ridge Relay for Life. The certificates were to show gratitude for the medical care provided to staff and family members.

A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION:



Commissioner Little and Deputy Commissioner Ray attended the Alcohol and Drug Council's 40TH Anniversary Dinner at the Music City Sheraton.

The organization offers solutions to people affected by alcohol and drug addictions.

Oscar-winning actor Louis Gossett, Jr. was the guest speaker.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK:

"Always have doesn't mean always should"

-Larry Lawrence, Human Resources, Central Office

"Growing older is mandatory. Growing up is optional. Laughing at yourself is therapeutic"!

-Submitted by, Flora Holland, Executive Assistant, Central Office